

JANUARY 30TH NO. 1

# WODONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Principal's Message

Damian Duncan - Principal



Dear Wodonga Primary School Community,

Welcome to the 2023 school year. We trust you have had a wonderful summer with your children and the new school year brings great learning opportunities and personal growth for all students at our school. We may have got off to a soggy start though there were plenty of excited and smiling faces running through our gates this morning.

### ACCESS TO SCHOOL GROUNDS

As outlined last year, we are commencing new gate openings and classroom schedules this year. With the implementation of the new Industrial Award changes have been made to ensure we are adhering to the award, providing a full and rich curriculum and opportunities to accommodate meeting with families as needed. The following is an outline of the changes.

1. Gates open in the morning at 8:30am
2. Yard Duty teachers commence morning supervision at 8:30am
3. Classroom doors are opened at 8:50am for students to enter the classroom and prepare for learning at 9am and be settled and connected with the classroom teacher
4. The daily timetable is as follows:

#### **9:00 - 11:00am Learning Block #1**

11:00 - 11:10am Lunch eating time in classroom

11:10 - 11:40am Lunch Break outside

#### **11:40 - 1:40pm Learning Block #2**

1:40 - 1:45pm Snack eating time in classroom

1:45 - 2:15pm Recess Break outside

#### **2:15 - 3:15pm Learning Block #3**

Our school day of 9:00am to 3:15am remains the same, the break times and learning blocks have changed within the day. Please note the eating times for our infant classes will be longer at the start of the year to give our young ones additional time to eat.

### STATIONERY PACKS

Well done to our community on completing the 2023 Stationery Pack process. We would also like to acknowledge our partnership with our local business Office Choice Wodonga. If you have paid for but have not picked up your child's stationery pack, it has been delivered to your child's classroom.

If you are new to WPS and have had any difficulties with the process, please email or call the school so we can assist you. Additionally, if your child has not got any stationery supplies for the 2023 school year for whatever reason, the school will work with you to support your child.

## ADDITIONAL SPECIALIST CLASSES - RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Another change to schools in Victoria with the new industrial award is the implementation addition release from face to face teaching (RFF) for teachers. To accommodate 4 hours of release from face to face teaching for teachers, each week every class at our school will participate in an hour lesson of Respectful Relationships learning. This is a part of the Victorian Department of Education's compulsory curriculum. Prior to 2023, this curriculum has been delivered by classroom teachers, commencing tomorrow the teachers providing this essential learning are:



Amy Hilll



Meryl Wilcox



Cathryn Russell

These specialist classes run on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays each week.

## TEACHER LED CONFERENCES: February 21-23

We will be running our Teacher Led Conferences from Monday February 21st to Wednesday February 23rd . These will be available for families to book either a before or after school timeslot across the three days. We see these conferences as essential to forming open communication between school and home. Please mark these dates in your calendar and lookout for the booking process via Compass over the coming weeks.

## COMMUNITY NIGHT

Our annual back to school Community Night is scheduled for Tuesday, February 14th. Mark this date in your calendar so you can attend and informal an fun night at school with your children. There will be fun activities and a free BBQ for families who register. In next week's Newsletter we will have the link to RSVP to the event and the ordering of a sausage in bread and drink can be purchased @ the school on the night. Families are welcome to bring their own picnic if they choose.

## NEW STAFF

We welcome the following new staff to Wodonga Primary School. We look forward to a great year and beyond with you all...



Kirrily Boyd  
Year 5 Teacher



Mollie Hill  
Year 4 Teacher



Brady Johnsnon  
Year 1 Teacher



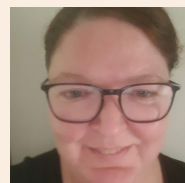
Jess Townsend  
Year 3 Teacher



Rebecca McInnis  
ES Classroom



Donna Trudhope  
ES Classroom



Sarah McBean  
ES Classroom

## FOUNDATION BAGS

This week, all Foundation students will take home their very own "Prep" bag from the Victorian Government. A great initiative that provides free library books and key information for Foundation families to support in the transition to school.

This year's Prep bags include five quality children's books, a 'Meet the Mathscots' animation series ruler, a 'Get Your Move On' foldable frisbee, a lunch box and much more. Enjoy reading through these special books at home!

Wodonga Primary School welcomes a strong, connected, relationship between home and school. Please reach out if you need support and be sure we will work together to put the social, emotional, academic and safety needs of your child/ren first.

Have a great week!  
Damian

# Sport

Blake Maxworthy - Sport Coordinator

Swimming trials for students who are interested in representing WPS at the Division Swimming Carnival will be held next Wednesday February 8th. Students will be provided with the opportunity to register for the trials on both Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

The trials are for confident, experienced swimmers only. Students must be able to swim 50 metres confidently using correct technique of the stroke of choice (freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke, or butterfly). Generally, students should do swimming (squad training) as an outside of school activity or have competed at the Division level before (Year 5/6) to be competitive at the Division level.

The trials are held at Waves Wodonga. Students are required to bring their swimwear to school with them and will be transported by bus both to and from the event. There will be a small cost to attend the trials. If students have a season pass to Waves the entry fee will be deducted from their cost.

The Compass Event with all the specific event information will be available from Friday this week allowing families time over the weekend to pay/consent. The event will remain open until Tuesday 7th February. For any further inquiries, please don't hesitate to contact me via email or by phoning the school. Blake.Maxworthy@education.vic.gov.au

# Canteen

Sindy & April - Canteen Managers

This year, we are offering a re-vamped Canteen Menu. Whilst the hard copy is not yet available (it will be sent out on Compass soon), you can see the new options when you use eCanteen to place your order. You will note that some lunch items are only available on particular days this year as we aim to create more healthy options.

Remember to update your child's classroom on eCanteen, otherwise their lunch could go roaming! **HELPERS:** If you have a couple of hours to spare on a particular day, please think about volunteering to help in the Canteen. You will need to have a fully vaccination history prior to coming onsite. Grandparents are very welcome. Please ring the school to let us know if you are able to assist – 6048 0300.

# Medication/Anaphylaxis

Jenny Martin - first Aid

All prescription medication **MUST** be signed in & supplied to the First Aid room by a parent. Medication not to be carried in students school bag. Please email or drop into the office and speak with Jenny if any questions/concerns.

Please read an **IMPORTANT letter** regarding our Anaphylaxis Students.

# Literacy

Alecia Williams & Mel McInnes - Literacy Lead Teachers

Home Learning is promoted at Wodonga Primary School as a means of:

- Developing and practising learning habits
- Connecting learning between home and school
- Consolidating and practising known skills
- Promoting questioning and curiosity
- Daily home reading

**Home Learning at Wodonga Primary School.**

# Student Leadership Assembly

Maureen Murray - Student Leadership Coordinator

Next Monday, 6th February, our whole school assembly will be the Student Leadership Assembly. The Student Leaders, FROGS Helpers and Friends of the Library will receive their badges. Students in other leadership roles will also be acknowledged.

Parents are welcome to attend this Assembly at 9am to participate in the formal acknowledgement of the Student Leaders for 2023.

## EVENT NOTIFICATIONS

Stay in touch with Events / Activities – using Compass as your information base

Event / Activity	Event Date	Who	Information on Compass	Consent / Payment Due Date
FEBRUARY				
Stationary Pack Orders	Feb -1, 8, 15, 22	Foundations	No School on Wednesdays in February	N/A
Community Night	Feb 14	Whole School	Community Night @ School	
Sporting School Incursion	Feb 14	Year 2	Hockey Roadshow	N/A
Sporting School Incursion	Feb 16	Year 4	Hockey Roadshow	N/A
Bogong Leadership Camp	Feb 17- 19	Selected Year 5 Students	Mt Bogong	N/A
Leading Image Foundation Portraits	Feb 17	Foundation Students only	Foundation photos	N/A
Sporting School Incursion	Feb 21	Year 2	Hot shots Tennis	N/A
Sporting School Incursion	Feb 23	Year 5	Hot Shots Tennis	N/A

